

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Alexander Melville Bell, February 12, 1880, with transcript

Alexander Graham Bell to his Father. (Only P. S. in AGB.'s handwriting). 904 — 14th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., February 12, 1880. My dear Father:

I enclose a copy of agreement, which has been forwarded to me for signature, which I submitted to Mr. Hubbard, he advises me not to sign it at present for the reasons given in his letter copy of which I now enclose. I should be glad to sign it if the liability was limited to say two thousand dollars, in case of the agreement being broken through a mistake of a foreign agent.

Before signing any final agreement with the Company, I should advise you to employ counsel.

I do not know if the National Bell Telephone Company are aware of the fact, that already several of the foreign patents have lapsed on account of the non-payment of fees. I think it would be as well if you advised them of the fact.

Love to all at the Heights.

Your affectionate son, Alec. A. M. Bell, Esq., Tutelo Heights, Brantford.

P. S. Just seen my life in Boston Sunday Herald. I should think from it I was the biggest man in creation!! We are beginning to receive money from our English Telephone Stock.

2

Mr. Hubbard has already fifty thousand dollars on hand which he proposes to invest in a house and land for us in Washington. He has already bought a lot of land in Washington and we are busy devising plans for a house.

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Send us some ideas on the subject. I hope — if we live here permanently — you and Mama may be induced to come down to the neighbourhood of Washington. I am so glad to have Charlie here. It is perfectly s plendid. He is now looking out for rooms, etc., in the neighbourhood, as Mabel wants our whole house for herself!

Your loving son, Alec.